UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
BUREAU OF COMMERCIAL FISHERIES

CALIFORNIA FISHERY MARKET NEWS MONTHLY SUMMARY

October 1966

PART II–Fishing Information*

Sea-surface temperatures, fishing and research information of interest to the West Coast tuna-fishing industry and marine scientists

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1966 WEST COAST ALBACORE SEASON NEARS CLOSE

The onset of fall storm activity in the Gulf of Alaska has marked the close of the Pacific Northwest albacore fishery and the near-termination of fishing off Central California.

By October 31, the 1966 season had proved to be disappointing: total landings for the entire West Coast will probably fall between 36,000,000 and 36,500,000 pounds, placing the season considerably below the postwar average production of about 42,000,000 pounds. Oregon and Washington landings are expected to fall between 20,300,000 and 20,400,000 pounds, making this year the best season since 1944-1945 when 34,109,555 and 18,245,326 pounds respectively were landed.1/

Weatherwise, the Pacific Northwest enjoyed light and variable winds during the first half of the month. Absence of high winds and stirring action permitted the late-season warm weather to maintain sea temperatures off Oregon up to 3° F. warmer than normal (see Figure 2), and fishing remained good until midmonth, when southwesterly gales began to blow. Blustery weather in the last 2 weeks of the month caused most northern boats to head for port, quitting for the season, while the remainder of the fleet moved south for better weather off Central California.

In Central California, continued light westerly winds offshore caused termination of nearshore upwelling, and resulted in increased fishing activity near the Farallon Islands, Davidson, and Guide Seamounts. Onset of windy weather in the latter part of the month contributed to widespread cooling, reversing the unseasonal anomaly observed in the first half of the month in this region. By month-end, the 60° F. isotherm had moved offshore and southward to the region off Morro Bay, where last-ditch fishing activity prevails today.

1/ Reference to 1945 as being the best production year in last month's issue of this publication was based on an incomplete data series. Since inception of the commercial albacore fishery in the Pacific Northwest in 1937, the all-time record was established in 1944; 1945 held second place until just this year.

The remainder of the 1966 albacore season depends largely upon prevailing weather conditions. The 60-66° F. isothermal band is expected to accelerate its movement offshore to the southwest as fall storms continue to stir the surface layer of water to greater depths. Those fishermen willing to combat the elements on the fishing grounds off Morro Bay should be in the best position to land a few extra tons of albacore as the fish migrate offshore.

Glenn A. Flittner, Chief
Tuna Forecasting Program
November 9, 1966

SEA SURFACE TEMPERATURE CHARTS, EASTERN PACIFIC OCEAN

OCTOBER 1966

Acknowledgments

The following organizations and stations contributed data for the October 1966 charts:

U.S. Bureau of Commercial Fisheries Exploratory Fishing and Gear Research Base, Seattle, Washington
U.S. Bureau of Commercial Fisheries Biological Laboratories La Jolla, California; Honolulu, Hawaii; and Seattle, Washington
U.S. Naval Communication Station Balboa, Fort Amador, Canal Zone
U.S. Naval Weather Service, Fleet Numerical Weather Facility, Monterey, California
U.S. Weather Bureau Port Meteorological Office, Cristobal, Canal Zone
U.S. Weather Bureau, San Diego, California
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Kelco Company, San Diego, California
Pacific Oceanographic Group, Nanaimo, British Columbia, by H. J. Hollister from observations by T. Collins at Quatsino Lightstation; P. B. Robertson at Cape St. James Light; O. A. Edwards at Amphitrite Point Light; G. C. Wilkes at Langara Island Light
Scripps Institution of Oceanography, La Jolla, California by Margaret Robinson and Hans Klein
W. R. Grace and Company, New York by Dr. I. William Lane
Ships Monsoon and Californian

Charts

Figure 1.--Mean sea surface temperatures (°F) derived from approximately 8000 observations. Squares show temperatures at weather ship stations. Numerals on shore are temperatures at coastal and lightship stations.

Figure 2.--Deviation of sea surface temperatures (°F) from long term charts of H.O. 225. Hatched areas are colder in 1966.

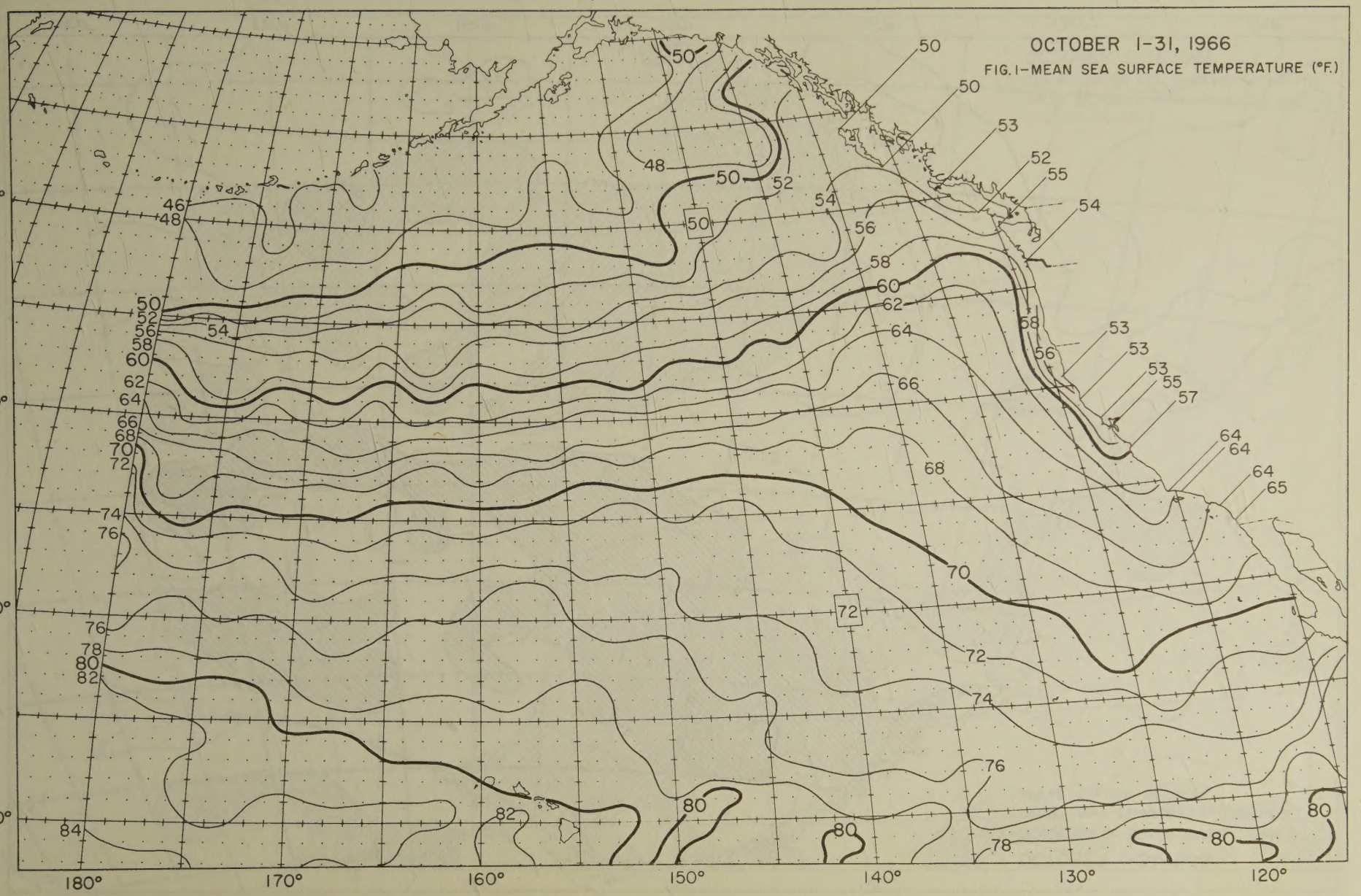
Figure 3.--Deviation of sea surface temperatures (°F) from those of October 1965. Hatched areas are colder in 1966.

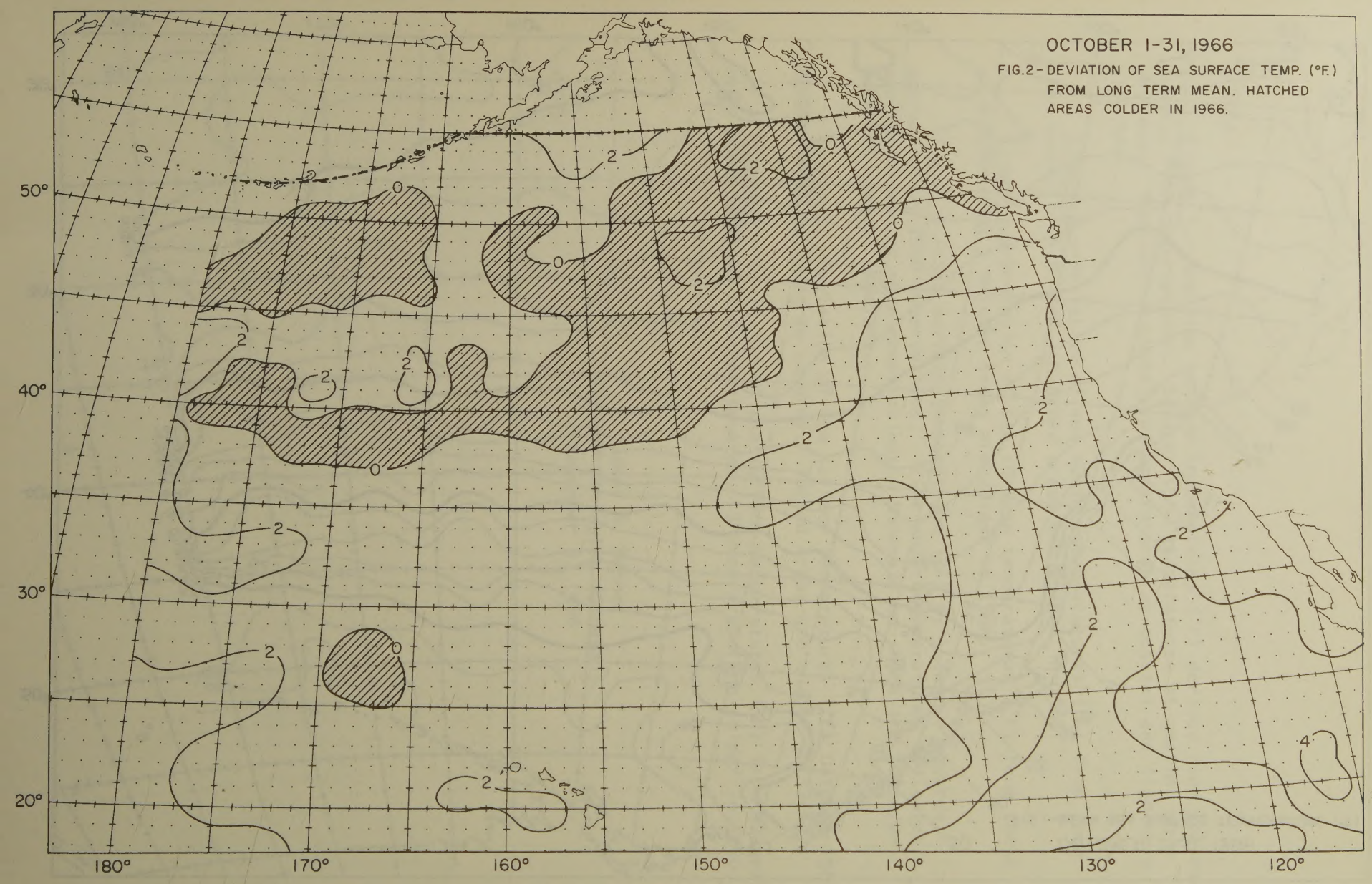
Figure 4.--Sea surface temperatures (°F) by 1-degree squares, approximately 2000 observations. Line under temperatures indicates average of two or more observations. Numerals on shore are temperatures at coastal stations.

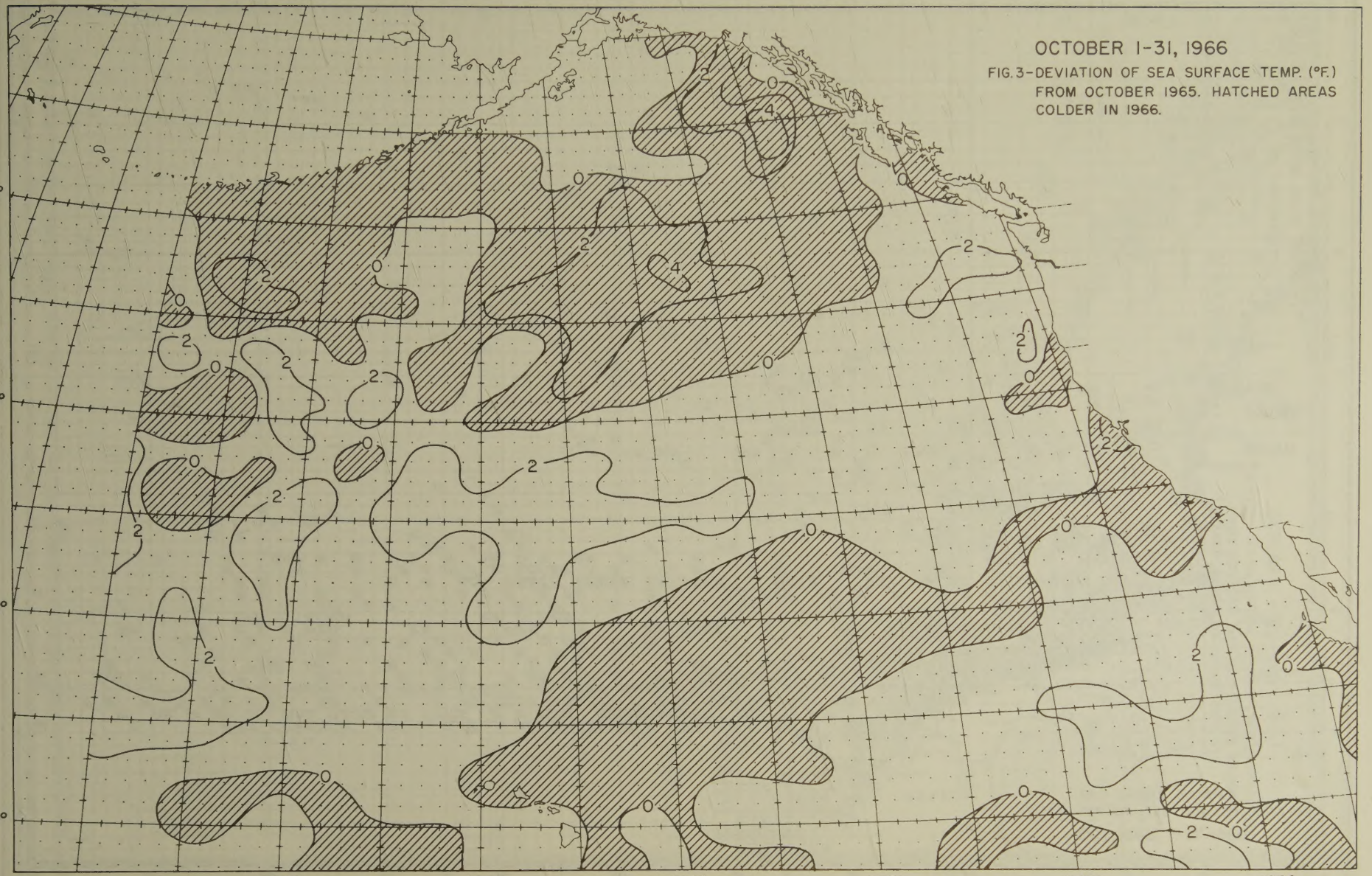
Figure 5.--Deviation of sea surface temperatures (°F) October 1966-October 1965 by 1-degree squares. Shaded areas are colder in 1966.

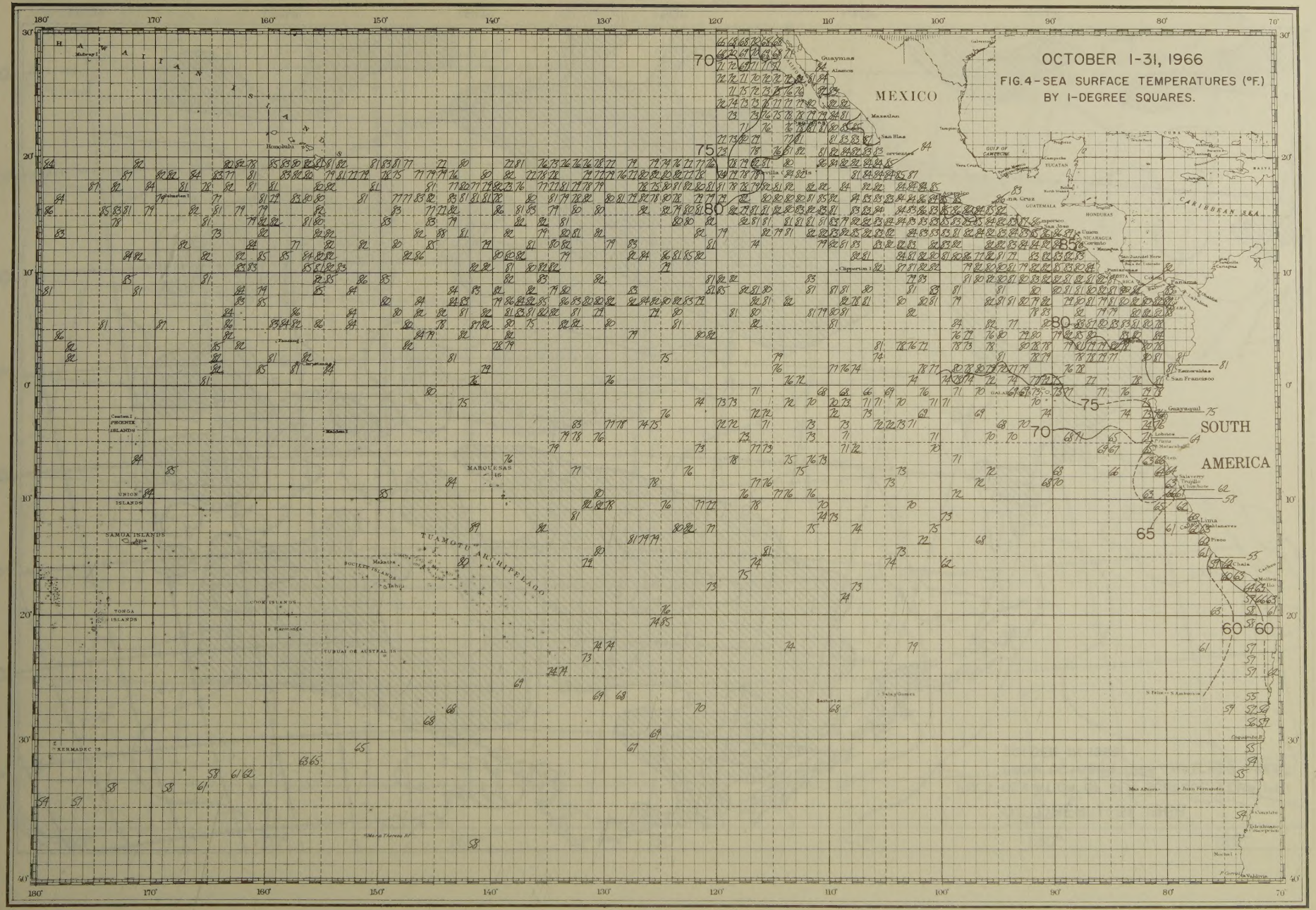
Figure 6.--Deviation of sea surface temperatures (°F) from 12-year mean (1947-1958) by 2-degree squares. Shaded areas are colder in 1966.

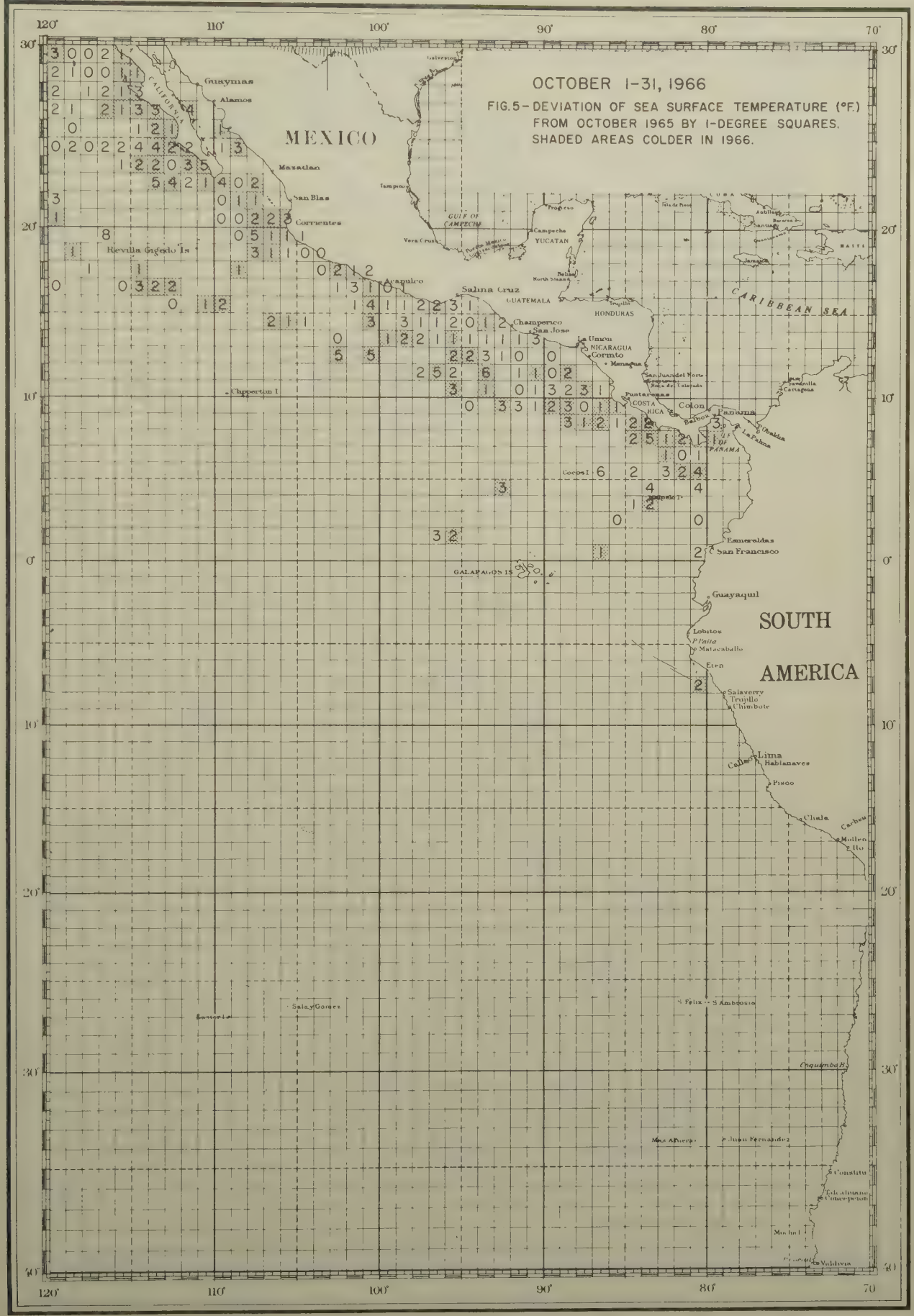
James A. Renner
Fishery Biologist (General)
November 9, 1966

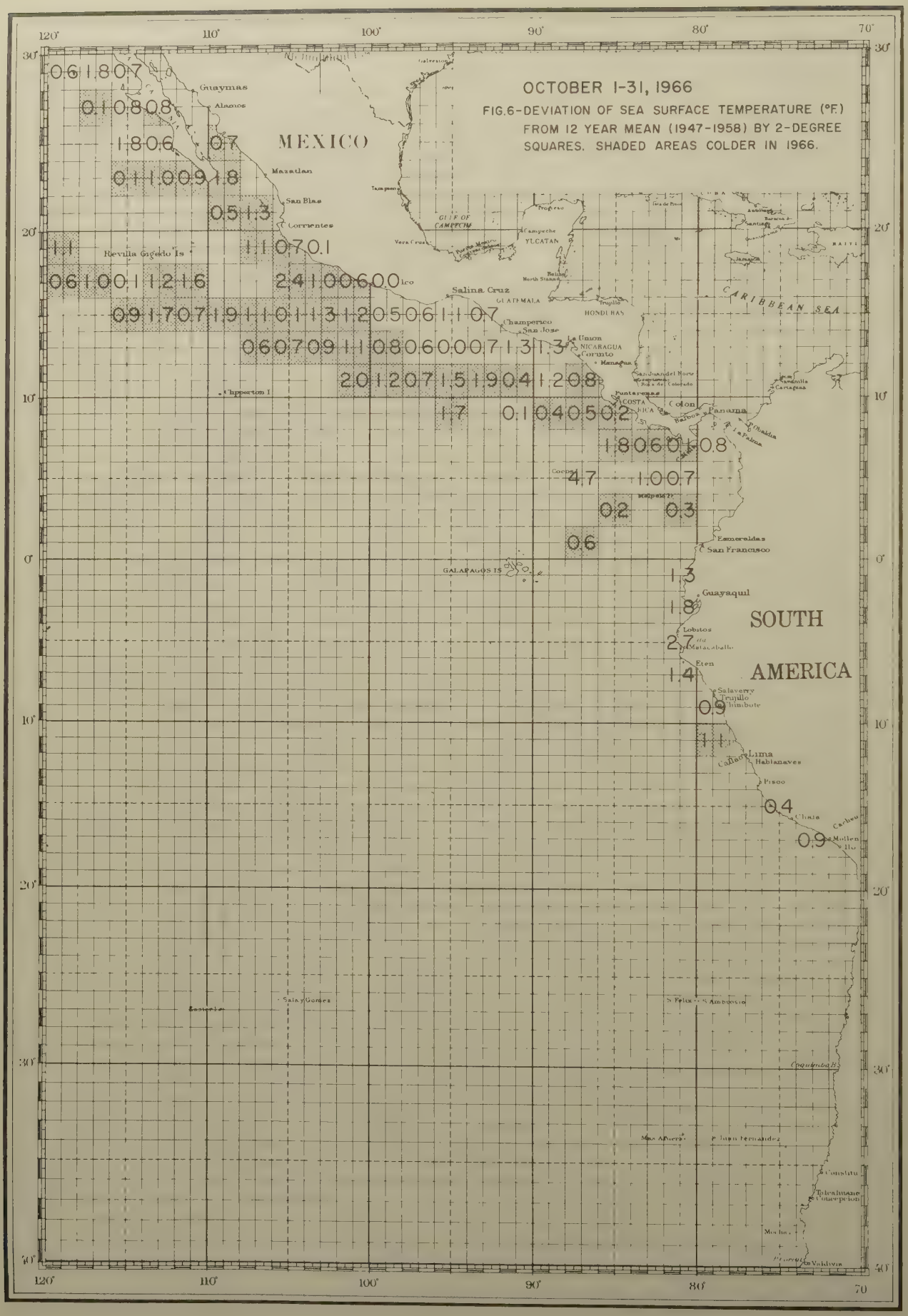

OCTOBER 1-31, 1966
FIG. 1-MEAN SEA SURFACE TEMPERATURE (°F.)
50°
40°
30°
20°
180°
170°
160°
150°
140°
130°
120°

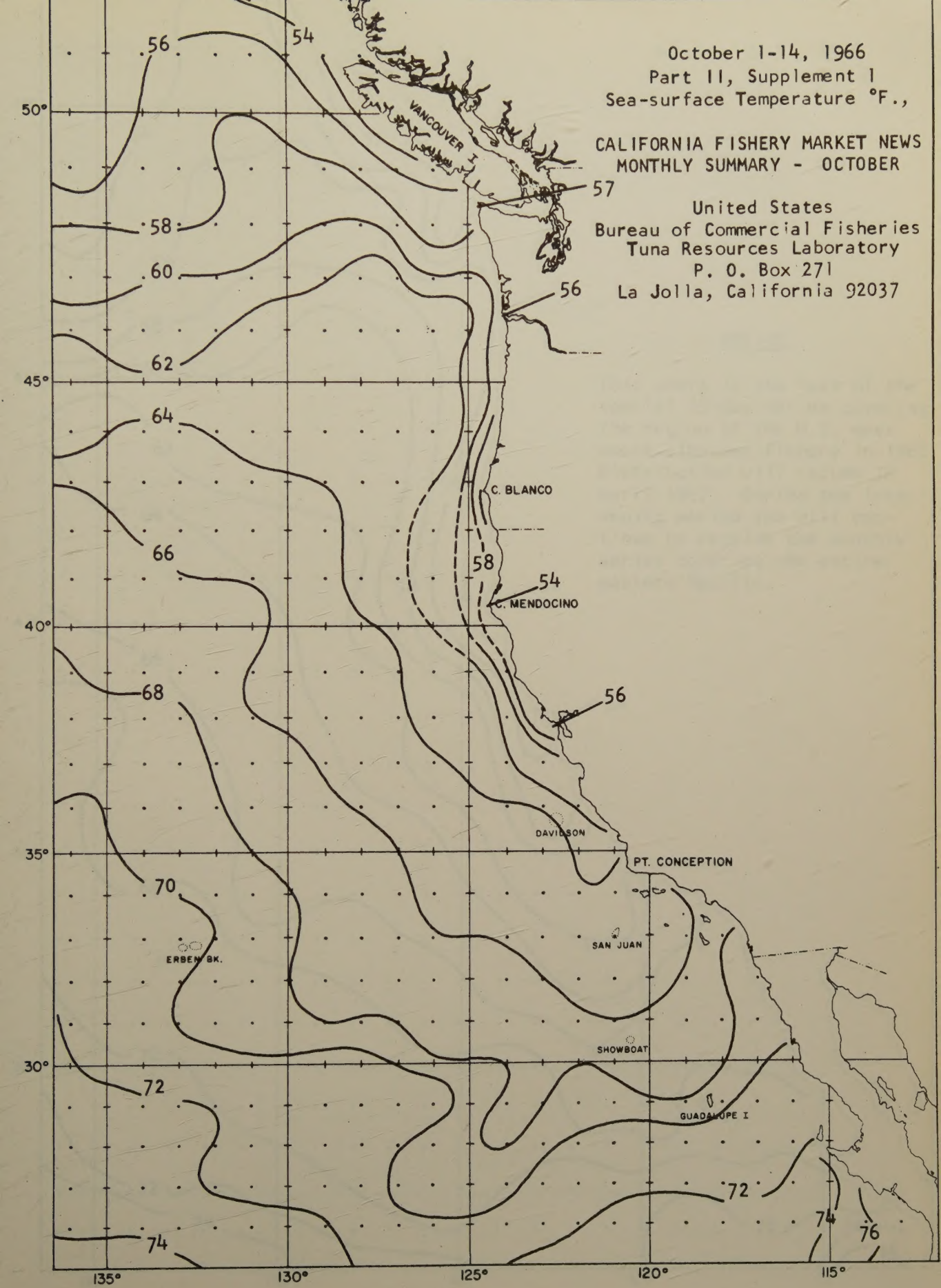

OCTOBER 1-31, 1966
FIG.2 - DEVIATION OF SEA SURFACE TEMP. (°F.) FROM LONG TERM MEAN. HATCHED AREAS COLDER IN 1966.
50°
40°
30°
20°
180°
170°
160°
150°
140°
130°
120°
0
2
4


OCTOBER 1-31, 1966
FIG. 3-DEVIATION OF SEA SURFACE TEMP. (°F.) FROM OCTOBER 1965. HATCHED AREAS COLDER IN 1966.
50°
40°
30°
20°
180°
170°
160°
150°
140°
130°
120°


OCTOBER 1-31, 1966
FIG. 4 - SEA SURFACE TEMPERATURES (°F.)
BY 1-DEGREE SQUARES.
MEXICO
SOUTH
AMERICA
CARIBBEAN SEA
HONDURAS
GUATEMALA
NICARAGUA
Panama
Guayaquil
Lima
Callao
Arica
Iquique
Valparaiso
San Francisco
Manzanillo
Acapulco
Salina Cruz
Guaymas
Mazatlan
San Blas
Honolulu
HAWAIIAN ISLANDS
MARQUESAS
TUAMOTU ARCHIPELAGO
SOCIETY ISLANDS
Tahiti
COOK ISLANDS
TONGA ISLANDS
SAMOA ISLANDS
PHOENIX ISLANDS
UNION ISLANDS
KERMADEC IS
Juan Fernandez
Mas Afuera
180°
170°
160°
150°
140°
130°
120°
110°
100°
90°
80°
70°
30°
20°
10°
0°
40°


OCTOBER 1-31, 1966
FIG. 5 - DEVIATION OF SEA SURFACE TEMPERATURE (°F.) FROM OCTOBER 1965 BY 1-DEGREE SQUARES. SHADED AREAS COLDER IN 1966.
MEXICO
CARIBBEAN SEA
SOUTH AMERICA
GUATEMALA
HONDURAS
NICARAGUA
COSTA RICA
PANAMA
CUBA
JAMAICA
HAITI
GULF OF CAMPECHE
YUCATAN
GALAPAGOS IS.
Guaymas
Alamos
Mazatlan
San Blas
Corrientes
Revilla Gigedo Is.
Acapulco
Salina Cruz
Champerico
San Jose
La Union
Cormto
Managua
Punta Arenas
Colon
Panama
Cocos I.
Esmeraldas
San Francisco
Guayaquil
Lobitos
Talara
Matacaballo
Eten
Salaverry
Trujillo
Chimbote
Lima
Callao
Pisco
Chala
Mollendo
Arica
Salaverry
Easter I.
Juan Fernandez
Valdivia


OCTOBER 1-31, 1966
FIG.6-DEVIATION OF SEA SURFACE TEMPERATURE (°F.) FROM 12 YEAR MEAN (1947-1958) BY 2-DEGREE SQUARES. SHADED AREAS COLDER IN 1966.
MEXICO
SOUTH AMERICA
CARIBBEAN SEA
GULF OF CAMPECHI
YUCATAN
GUATEMALA
HONDURAS
NICARAGUA
COSTA RICA
PANAMA
GALAPAGOS IS
Guaymas
Alamos
Mazatlan
San Blas
Corrientes
Revilla Gigedo Is
Salina Cruz
Champerico
San Jose
La Union
Corinto
Managua
Chipperton I
Punta Arenas
Colon
Panama
Esmeraldas
San Francisco
Guayaquil
Lobitos
Eten
Salaverry
Trujillo
Chimbote
Lima
Callao
Huacho
Pisco
Chala
Caraveli
Mollendo
Ilo
Sala y Gomez
S. Felix
S. Ambrosio
Juan Fernandez
Valdivia
0.6 1.8 0.7
0.1 0.8 0.8
1.8 0.6 0.7
0.1 1.0 0.9 1.8
0.5 1.3
1.1 1.1 0.7 0.1
0.6 1.0 0.1 1.2 1.6
2.4 1.0 0.6 0.0
0.9 1.7 0.7 1.9 1.1 0.1 1.1 3 1.2 0.5 0.6 1.1 0.7
0.6 0.7 0.9 1.1 0.8 0.6 0.0 0.7 1.3 1.3
2.0 1.2 0.7 1.5 1.9 0.4 1.2 0.8
1.7 0.1 0.4 0.5 0.2
1.8 0.6 0.1 0.8
4.7 1.0 0.7
0.2 0.3
0.6
1.3
1.8
2.7
1.4
0.9
1.1
0.4
0.9


October 1-14, 1966
Part II, Supplement 1
Sea-surface Temperature °F.,
CALIFORNIA FISHERY MARKET NEWS
MONTHLY SUMMARY - OCTOBER
United States
Bureau of Commercial Fisheries
Tuna Resources Laboratory
P. O. Box 271
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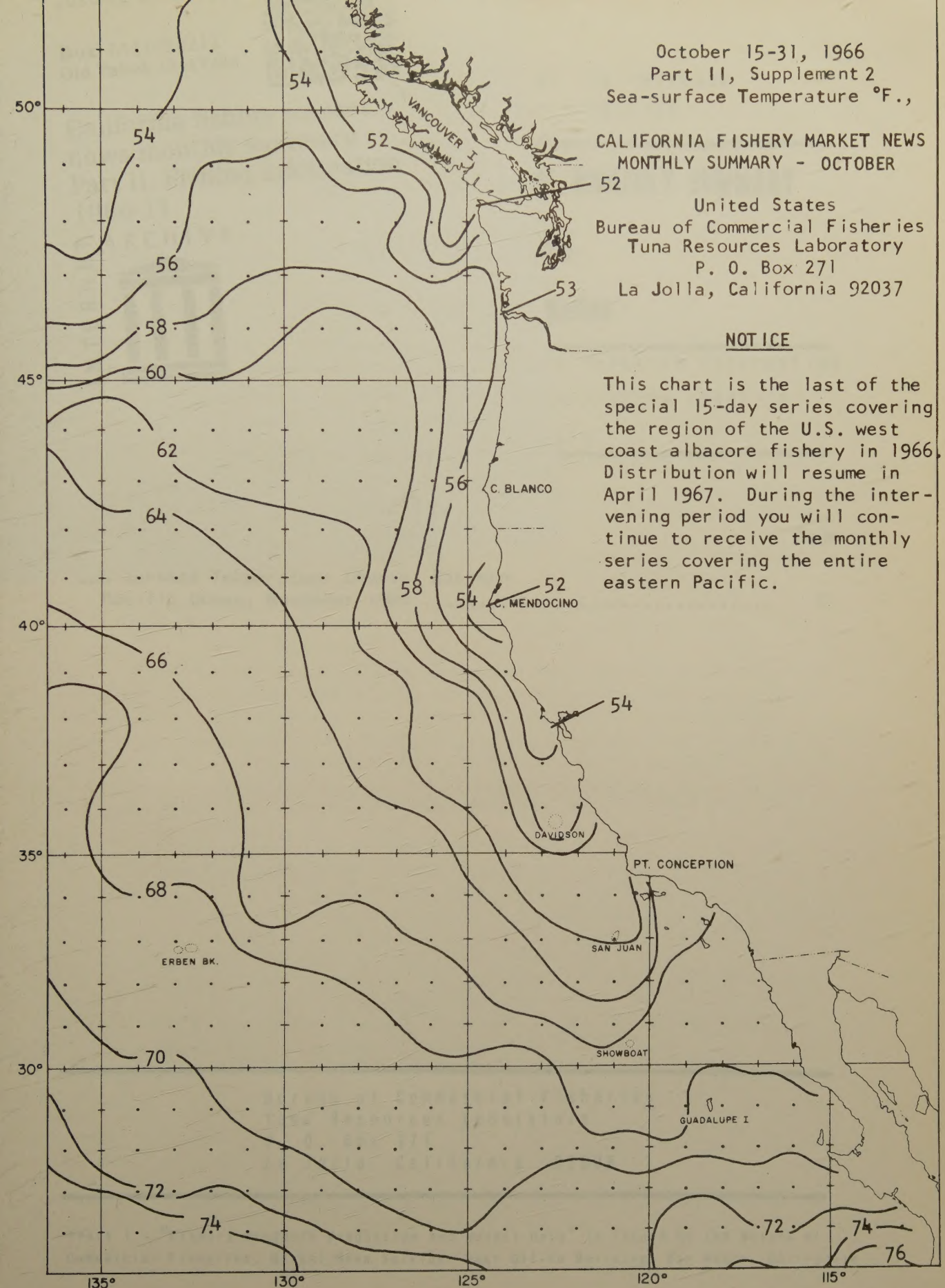
VANCOUVER I.
C. BLANCO
C. MENDOCINO
DAVIDSON
PT. CONCEPTION
SAN JUAN
SHOWBOAT
GUADALUPE I
ERBEN BK.
50°
45°
40°
35°
30°
135°
130°
125°
120°
115°
54
56
57
58
60
62
64
66
68
70
72
74
76



October 15-31, 1966
Part II, Supplement 2
Sea-surface Temperature °F.,

CALIFORNIA FISHERY MARKET NEWS
MONTHLY SUMMARY - OCTOBER

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NOTICE

This chart is the last of the special 15-day series covering the region of the U.S. west coast albacore fishery in 1966. Distribution will resume in April 1967. During the intervening period you will continue to receive the monthly series covering the entire eastern Pacific.